

# Arizona Reading Standard Performance Level Descriptors

## Grade 6

**The performance descriptors are based upon the utilization of grade-level appropriate reading materials.**

**Exceeds the Standard** – Students who score in this level illustrate a superior academic performance as evidenced by achievement that is substantially beyond the goal for all students. Students who perform at this level demonstrate strong analytical and inferential skills in comprehending more challenging and complex text. They are able to identify various literary elements, describe how character traits influence actions, and analyze the movement toward the climax in literary text.

**Meets the Standard** – Students who score in this level demonstrate a solid academic performance on subject matter as reflected by the reading standard. Students who perform at this level are able to identify the appropriate reference sources needed for a specific purpose, use organizational features to locate information, and distinguish between important and unimportant details. They will be able to determine the author’s position and recognize valid support for a given argument.

**Approaches the Standard** – Students who score in this level show partial understanding of the knowledge and application of the skills that are fundamental for proficient work. Students who perform at this level show a basic understanding of making predictions, identifying cause and effect, and drawing conclusions in literary text. They can identify the main idea, analyze specific facts, and differentiate fact from opinion in informational text. Some gaps in knowledge and skills are evident and may require additional instruction and remediation in order to achieve a satisfactory level of understanding.

**Falls Far Below the Standard** – Students who score in this level may have significant gaps and limited knowledge and skills that are necessary to satisfactorily meet the state’s reading standard. Students will usually require a considerable amount of additional instruction and remediation in order to achieve a satisfactory level of understanding.

Students at the “Exceeds the Standard” level generally know the skills required at the “Meets” and “Approaches” levels and are able to:	Students at the “Meets the Standard” level generally know the skills required at the “Approaches” level and are able to:	Students at the “Approaches the Standard” level generally know and are able to:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use inference to draw conclusions, make predictions, and identify cause and effect relationships in complex text.</li> <li>• Analyze the progression of rising action in a text.</li> <li>• Identify various literary elements.</li> <li>• Distinguish between realistic and historical fiction.</li> <li>• Identify theme in literary text.</li> <li>• Analyze key ideas in literary text.</li> <li>• Describe how character traits influence actions in literary text.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use context clues to determine meaning of words and phrases.</li> <li>• Distinguish between important and unimportant details.</li> <li>• Compare conflict in paired passages.</li> <li>• Summarize or identify the best summary of a literary text.</li> <li>• Identify mood in literary text.</li> <li>• Locate embedded information in informational text.</li> <li>• Use organizational features to locate specific information.</li> <li>• Identify the appropriate reference sources for a purpose.</li> <li>• Identify the intended effect of literary elements in informational text.</li> <li>• Determine the author’s position.</li> <li>• Recognize valid support for a given argument.</li> <li>• Interpret figurative language in context.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use context clues to determine meaning of multi-meaning words.</li> <li>• Use root words to determine meaning of words.</li> <li>• Identify correct sequences of events.</li> <li>• Use inference to draw conclusions, make predictions, and identify cause and effect in text.</li> <li>• Identify theme in literary text.</li> <li>• Identify genre of literary text.</li> <li>• Identify and analyze specific facts in informational text.</li> <li>• Identify main idea in informational text.</li> <li>• Determine the author’s purpose.</li> <li>• Differentiate fact from opinion in informational text.</li> </ul>

**These descriptors do not include all the skills and knowledge as contained in the Reading Standard.**